

AR-668

**The transition as a project: Space, Life, Politics**

Mantziaras Panos, Various lecturers (see below), Viganò Paola

Cursus	Sem.	Type
Architecture et sciences de la ville		Obl.

Langue d'enseignement	français / anglais
Crédits	1
Session	
Examen	Mémoire
Charge	30h
<b>Heures</b>	<b>24</b>
Cours	9
Exercices	15
<b>Nombre de places</b>	<b>20</b>

**Fréquence**

Cette année uniquement

**Remarque**

October 3rd - 4th 2022. Bilingual course

**Résumé**

The Habitat Research Center EPFL and the Braillard Architectural Foundation in the framework of The Eco-Century Project®, in collaboration with the Architecture and Urban Planning department of Ghent University conjunctly organise the 6th Bernardo Secchi Working Seminar.

**Contenu**

At the initiative of the Braillard Architects Foundation and the Habitat Research Center of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne, the Bernardo Secchi Working Seminar were established yearly since 2015 as an international and interdisciplinary meeting, bound to debate the main issues related to cities and regions in favor of the ecological transition as a coordinated action in the context of climate emergency. Integral part of the Braillard Foundation's research and culture program The Eco-Century Project, the Bernard Secchi Working Seminar is dedicated to the memory of the planner and theoretician Bernardo Secchi (1934- 2014), Professor at the Schools of Architecture of Geneva and Venice. With his writings and projects, the internationally known and engaged urbanist has constantly promoted a critical understanding and innovative action for the just and optimal development of the urban realm.

In 2022, with the collaboration of the Department of Architecture and Urban Planning of Ghent University, the 6th Bernardo Secchi Working Seminar aims to challenge the Transition as a project engaging space, life and politics. It will take place in Geneva on October 3 and 4, 2022. Scholars, practitioners and stakeholders working at the intersection between these three dimensions will be gather to discuss the vortex created by life sciences, political sciences and the disciplines of architecture, urban, territorial and landscape design. Proposals are invited to move along one or more of the three following axes: Values and metrics, Spaces of emancipation and Ecologies of coexistence.

"The metaphysical and methodological commitment of modern western urbanism is towards conceiving the project of the city and the territory as being part of a vaster biopolitical action". Bernardo Secchi [1]

In his last text dedicated to European urbanism and its tradition, Bernardo Secchi drew upon the Foucauldian notion of "biopolitics" to qualify to Modern Planning. He argued that the entire European democratic culture could be considered as the field of a "vaster biopolitical action" that namely engaged, constructed, and transformed urban space, in view of protecting, educating, and emancipating its population. Accordingly, planning and design of the 19th and 20th centuries were defined as techno-scientific and creative offsprings of this tradition.

A never-ending list of the ongoing health crisis is today seen by many as a precursor of more violent economic, social, and environmental ones. The conceptual, intellectual, and disciplinary debate proposed here is therefore worth the challenge. It fosters the search for tools and methods of planning and design for an inhabitable, just, and healthy planet. To make this socio-ecological and spatial transition possible, a new project with a fundamental conceptual shift in favor of new articulations between space, time and politics ought to be invented. Within this project, human synergies and values should be enhanced including those of heterogeneity and diversity in the design of the inhabited space.

Participants are invited to preview the online recording of the launching event hold on November 14, 2021, in the framework of the last Venice Biennale "How will we live together?". During the conference "Meetings on Architecture", curated by Hashim Sarkis (MIT), the Habitat Research Center and the Brailard Architects Foundation were pleased to lead the panel entitled "Sustainability, Transition and Urbanization: a new project for space, life and politics", involving Saskia Sassen, Mathis Wackernagel, Michiel Dehaene, Arturo Escobar, Panos Mantziaras and Paola Viganò. Most of the panelists will again participate in the Seminar itself.

[1] Secchi, B. (2014) A tradição europeia do planejamento: culturas e políticas. In E. Ribeiro Peixoto, M. F. Derntl, P.P. Palazzo, R. Trevisan eds., Tempos e escalas da cidade e do urbanismo: quatro palestras, XIII Seminario de Historia da Cidade e do Urbanismo (Shcu). Brasilia: Facoltà di Architettura e Urbanistica, Università di Brasilia. Now in: Secchi, B. (2015). La tradizione Urbanistica Europea. Culture e politiche. In: G. Fini, ed., Il futuro si costruisce giorno per giorno. Riflessioni su spazio, società e progetto. Roma: Donzelli Editore. See also: Cavalletti A. (2005) La città biopolitica, Bruno Mondadori, Milano.

### Note

The detailed program of the seminar will be published in the Habitat Research Center website (see below)

### Mots-clés

Urbanism, design oriented knowledge, action-oriented design

### Acquis de formation

A la fin de ce cours l'étudiant doit être capable de:

- Integrate the resource factor in design and planning at different scales
- Understand the function of individual and/or collective expectation in the design
- Understand the function of individual and/or collective expectation in the design

### Ressources

#### Sites web

- <http://www.brailard.ch>
- <https://www.epfl.ch/research/domains/habitat/>